

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following replacement Abstract:

A device for singulating surgical needles from a bulk supply of needles ~~including~~ includes a vibratory bowl ~~assembly~~ for receiving said bulk ~~the~~ supply of needles. The bowl ~~assembly~~ ~~having~~ has a floor to receive the needles, a track extending from the floor to a needle discharge point and a selectively vibrating motor to vibrate the surgical needles into a single file along the track. ~~;~~ a ~~A~~ discharge device ~~having~~ has first and second needle receiving pockets, ~~the device positioning and positions~~ the first and the second needle receiving pockets below said ~~the~~ needle discharge point. ~~;~~ a ~~A~~ controller ~~for selectively vibrating~~ vibrates the vibratory bowl and ~~selectively positioning~~ positions the first and second needle pockets below the needle discharge point, the controller singulating individual needles from the single file of needles into the first and second needle receiving pockets. ~~;~~ a ~~A~~ discharger ~~for discharging~~ discharges the singulated needles ~~in the first and second needle pockets~~ in a spaced relationship on a conveyor for subsequent imaging at an inspection station.